

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1, 21, and 22 are amended. Claims 1, 3-8, and 10-22 are pending in the application. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration, allowance of the pending claims and a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite the resolution of this case, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

/ttumeay/
Tod T. Tumeay
Tumeay L.L.P.
Reg. No. 47,146
P. O. Box 22188
Houston, Texas 77227-2188
(713) 622-7005 (Phone)
(713) 622-0220 (Fax)
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT